

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A torque converter ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising:
a pump including an annular pump shell mounted on a pump hub supported in a housing so as to rotate, and a plurality of impellers radially arranged in the pump shell;
a turbine including an annular turbine shell arranged facing the pump and mounted on a turbine hub which rotates relative to the pump hub, and a plurality of runners radially arranged in the turbine shell;
a stator, arranged between the pump and the turbine, and being supported by the housing; and
an operation fluid filled in the pump and in the turbine,
wherein transmission torque limit means is arranged between the stator and the housing so as to limit the transmission of torque transmitted to the stator from the pump through the turbine so as not to increase in excess of a predetermined value,
wherein the transmission torque limit means comprises a one-way clutch supported by the housing and a torque limiter arranged between the one-way clutch and the stator, the stator is fixed to the housing through the torque limiter and the one-way clutch when the transmission of torque is not exceeding the predetermined value, and the stator runs idle relative to the one-way clutch due to the operation of the torque limiter when the transmission of torque is going to increase in excess of the predetermined value.